

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Plaintiff,

v.

Alma Andrea SANCHEZ
Defendant.

Magistrate Case No.:

'08 MJ 8177

COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATION OF

21 U.S.C. § 952 and 960
Importation of a Controlled Substance
(Felony)


The undersigned complainant being duly sworn states:

That on or about February 24, 2008, within the Southern District of California, defendant Alma Andrea SANCHEZ did knowingly and intentionally import approximately 54.10 kilograms (119.02 pounds) of marijuana, a Schedule I Controlled Substance, into the United States from a place outside thereof, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 952 and 960.

The complainant states that this complaint is based on the attached Statement of Facts incorporated herein by reference.


Rudy Garcia, Special Agent
U.S. Immigration and
Customs Enforcement

SWORN TO BEFORE ME AND SUBSCRIBED IN MY PRESENCE THIS 26th
DAY OF February 2008.


PETER C. LEWIS
U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE

1 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

2 v.

3 Alma Andrea SANCHEZ

4 STATEMENT OF FACTS

5 This statement of facts is based on the reports, documents, and notes furnished
6 to US Immigration and Customs Enforcement Special Agent Rudy Garcia.

7 On February 24, 2008, at approximately 2230 hours, Alma Andrea SANCHEZ
8 attempted to enter the United States from the Republic of Mexico at the Calexico, CA
9 West Port of Entry. SANCHEZ was the driver, registered owner and sole occupant of a
10 1999 Chevrolet Blazer with California license plate number 6AZX987.

11 SANCHEZ identified herself to Customs and Border Protection Officer (CBPO)
12 Ocegüera, and stated she was a United States citizen. CBPO Ocegüera questioned
13 SANCHEZ regarding the vehicle and she stated she had owned the vehicle for about
14 four months. SANCHEZ gave a negative declaration and stated she was returning to
15 Brawley after visiting some friends in Mexicali. CBPO Ocegüera noted that SANCHEZ
16 seemed over-friendly and had problems concentrating when replying to his questions.
17 CBPO Ocegüera referred SANCHEZ to vehicle secondary for further inspection.

18 In vehicle secondary, CBPO Lepe received a negative declaration from
19 SANCHEZ. SANCHEZ was asked the purpose of her trip to Mexico and stated to CBPO
20 Lepe, that she was visiting friends. SANCHEZ also stated that she bought the vehicle
21 four months ago and that she was unemployed. CBPO Lepe requested a canine
22 screening of the vehicle. Canine Enforcement Officer Taylor used his human/narcotic
23 detection dog to screen the vehicle. The canine alerted to the rear bumper area of the
24 vehicle.

25 A subsequent inspection of the vehicle revealed 42 packages concealed inside a
26 compartment within the gas tank, within the door panels, inside the spare tire and within
27 the dashboard. One of the packages was probed and it field-tested positive for
28 marijuana. The 42 packages had a combined net weight of approximately 54.10
29 kilograms (119.02 pounds) of marijuana. SANCHEZ was placed under arrest and
30 advised of her Miranda Rights, which she acknowledged.